

Career Services *Peer* (Student Affairs)

JOB DESCRIPTION and APPLICATION PROCESS

Career Services is searching for candidates for the **Career Services Peer Program**. Career Services Peers work one-to-one with undergraduate or graduate students, focusing primarily on strategies for improving resumes (or cover letters) rather than proofing or editing. We are seeking individuals who would be interested in developing or furthering their coaching skills and learning, in particular, how to guide interactions in appointments so as to lead to transformative learning (“Aha” moments) for clients. As a peer, you would provide 6 half-hour appointments at Career Services per week during office hours (at times suited to your schedule).

We train peers on coaching skills including:

- active listening
- the ability to ask good questions
- providing effective feedback
- explaining options and strategies
- helping clients assess options and form their own goals.

The focus on competency development and the amount of supervision (some of it based on direct observation) available throughout the program makes this opportunity a significant one for a graduate student seeking professional development in these areas. While these skills will focus on career strategies, they **are transferable to professional work that requires an advising or coaching skillset** (such as consulting, law, counselling, teaching, medicine, academia, or any work with clients).

Role and Responsibilities

- Work with undergraduate and graduate students to discuss strategies required for successful applications (resumes, curriculum vitae, and cover letters)
- Meet with students during scheduled appointments (typically one-to-one) or through drop-in opportunities (e.g., during regular Career Advising hours or during Resume Clinics)
- Refer students to, and familiarize them with, appropriate career and information resources (counsellors, books, pamphlets, brochures, websites etc.)
- Work in a variety of contexts: Career Services Peer Area and special event “Resume Clinics”
- Liaise with the Senior Career Services Peer and the Program Coordinator
- Attend training events and regular (breakfast) meetings
- Work on additional special career-related projects (by arrangement)

Qualifications

- Interest in helping others; previous experience in other helping roles an asset
- Demonstrated commitment to multi-cultural issues. Skill in interacting with persons of diverse backgrounds.

- Interest in Career Services, career development and career and job search resources; experience with Career Services resources and services an asset
- Experience participating in hiring and selection processes is an asset
- An interest in developing coaching skills; this includes active listening skills, the ability to ask good questions, to provide effective feedback, explain options and strategies, and help clients assess options and form own goals.
- Commitment to learning and acting on feedback to continually improve skills
- Ability to work independently, and also effectively in a team setting
- Reliability and punctuality are essential
- Ability to make a commitment to this role. Our student clients rely on this service for resume support. It is essential that appointments occur as booked and scheduled. It is critical that peer educators attend all scheduled hours of service so students do not miss out on their scheduled appointments.
- Good knowledge of Outlook, Microsoft Word, and confidence and competence in searching for information on the Internet.
- A professional LinkedIn Profile, knowledge of MyCareer and OnQ are assets.

Above all, we are looking for volunteers with a positive attitude who are willing to be challenged and to learn and grow.

Requirements

- Commitment to providing 6 half-hour appointments/week (approximately 3-hours per week) during fall and winter academic terms.
- Availability for training Sat., Sep 9, 2017 11 AM to 5 PM & Mon., Sep 11, 2017, 6 PM to 9 PM (mandatory)
- Training and orientation involves: a) online training during the summer, b) 1-to-1 training, c) shadowing appointments, d) practicing with peers and e) readiness assessment through direct observation by Program Coordinator/Senior Peer
- Availability for ongoing meetings: Wednesdays at 8 AM – 8:20 AM (Sept - Oct, Jan - Feb). (breakfast provided)
- Engagement in competency development process during training and throughout the year.

Application Process

Please submit:	1. A cover letter that addresses the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What you know about the Career Services Peer Program. What you hope to get out of helping students with their resume and cover letters. Your capacity to commit 3 hours per week in the 2017-2018 academic year.
	2. A resume that includes your current and past academic qualifications (degree program and year, and expected graduation date) and your relevant experiences (academic, paid or volunteer)

Deadline for applications: **11:59 PM Sunday, September 3, 2017**

Please send your cover letter and resume as a single pdf document to julia.blackstock@queensu.ca

For More Information

Julia Blackstock, Career Counsellor & Career Services Peer Program Coordinator | julia.blackstock@queensu.ca | (613) 533-6000, ext. 78350 | <http://ca.linkedin.com/in/juliablackstock>